

Remarks

Claims 1-24 are currently pending in the Application.

Allowable Claims

Applicants acknowledge with gratitude the Examiner's indication of allowability as to Claims 2-6, 13-18 and 22-24.

Summary of claim amendments

This response amends Claim 1 to recite "wherein the width of the RF contact where the RF contact meets the RF line is less than the width of the portion of the RF line removed from the RF contact." Support for the amendment can be found, for example, in Figures 4, 7a-7b and 8 and the related text in the specification.

This response further amends Claim 9 to recite "wherein the width of the RF contacts where the RF contacts meet the RF conductor is less than the width of the portion of the RF conductor removed from the RF contacts." Support for the amendment can be found, for example, in Figures 4, 7a-7b and 8 and the related text in the specification.

This response also amends Claim 12 to recite "wherein the width of the first of the two closeable RF contacts where the first of the two closeable RF contacts meets the first RF line is less than the width of the portion of the first RF line removed from the first of the two closeable RF contacts, and wherein the width of the second one of the two closeable RF contacts where the second one of the two closeable RF contacts meets the second RF line is less than the width of the portion of the second RF line removed from the second one of the two closeable RF contacts." Support for the amendment can be found, for example, in Figures 4, 7a-7b and 8 and the related text in the specification.

Additionally, this response amends Claim 19 to recite "wherein the width of the RF switch contact where the RF switch contact meets the RF line is less than the width of the portion of the RF line removed from the RF switch contact." Support for the amendment

can be found, for example, in Figures 4, 7a-7b and 8 and the related text in the specification.

35 U.S.C. §102(b) rejection

Claims 1, 7-12 and 19-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Larson (U.S. Patent No. 5,121,089). Applicants respectfully disagree.

The Examiner is reminded that “[a] claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference.” MPEP 2131 quoting *Verdegaal Bros. V. Union Oil Co, of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). The Examiner is also reminded that “[the] identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ... claim.” MPEP 2131 quoting *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 F.2d 1226, 1236, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989). Applicants submit that Larson does not teach each and every element as set forth in the rejected claims. In particular:

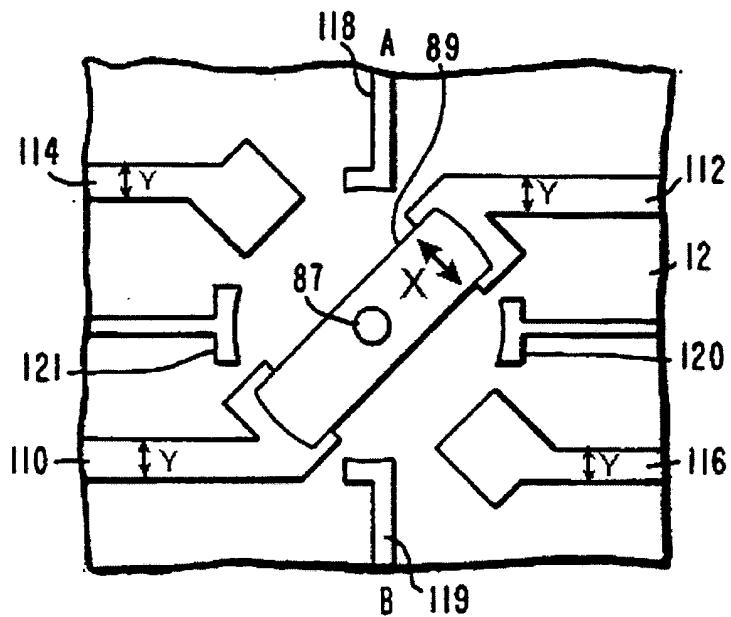
Claim 1

Applicants submit that Larson does not disclose, suggest or teach, *inter alia*, the following features recited by amended Claim 1 of the present application:

“the width of the RF contact where the RF contact meets the RF line is **less than** the width of the portion of the RF line removed from the RF contact ” (emphasis added)

Referring to Larson’s Figure 5 reproduced below, the Examiner asserts that “the RF contact” as recited in Claim 1 is disclosed by Larson’s blade “89.” See page 2, of the Official Action. The Examiner also asserts that “the RF line” as recited in Claim 1 is disclosed by Larson’s segments “110, 112, 114, 116.” See page 2, of the Official Action. Applicants respectfully traverse the Examiner’s assertion.

Fig. 5.



Referring to Figure 5 above, Applicants submit that the width of the portion of the segments "110, 112, 114, 116" that is removed from the blade "89" has been marked by reference letter "Y" for clarity. Applicants further submit that the width of the blade "89" where blade "89" meets the segments "110, 112, 114, 116" has been marked by reference letter "X" for clarity.

According to Larson, the width "X" of the blade "89" is **greater than** the width "Y" of the segments "110, 112, 114, 116." See Larson's Figure 5 above.

Applicants submit that Larson does not teach, disclose or suggest "the width of the RF contact where the RF contact meets the RF line is **less than** the width of the portion of the RF line removed from the RF contact" (emphasis added) as recited in Claim 1, because Larson's width "X" of the blade "89" is **greater than** Larson's width "Y" of the segments "110, 112, 114, 116."

Hence, Claim 1 is patentable over Larson and should be allowed by the Examiner. Claims 7-8, at least based on their dependency on Claim 1, are also believed to be patentable over Larson.

Claim 9

Applicants submit that, at least for the reasons stated above for Claim 1, Larson does not teach, disclose or suggest “the width of the RF contacts where the RF contacts meet the RF conductor is **less than** the width of the portion of the RF conductor removed from the RF contacts” (emphasis added) as recited in Claim 9. Hence, Claim 9 is patentable over Larson and should be allowed by the Examiner. Claims 10-11, at least based on their dependency on Claim 9, are also believed to be patentable over Larson.

Claim 12

Applicants submit that, at least for the reasons stated above for Claim 1, Larson does not teach, disclose or suggest “the width of the first of the two closeable RF contacts where the first of the two closeable RF contacts meets the first RF line is **less than** the width of the portion of the first RF line removed from the first of the two closeable RF contacts, and wherein the width of the second one of the two closeable RF contacts where the second one of the two closeable RF contacts meets the second RF line is **less than** the width of the portion of the second RF line removed from the second one of the two closeable RF contacts” (emphasis added) as recited in Claim 12. Hence, Claim 12 is patentable over Larson and should be allowed by the Examiner.

Claim 19

Applicants submit that, at least for the reasons stated above for Claim 1, Larson does not teach, disclose or suggest “the width of the RF switch contact where the RF switch contact meets the RF line is **less than** the width of the portion of the RF line removed from the RF switch contact” (emphasis added) as recited in Claim 19. Hence, Claim 19 is patentable over Larson and should be allowed by the Examiner. Claims 20-21, at least based on their dependency on Claim 19, are also believed to be patentable over Larson.

Conclusion

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of all the claims are respectfully solicited.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required or credit overpayment to deposit account no. 12-0415. In particular, if this response is not timely filed, then the Commissioner is authorized to treat this response as including a petition to extend the time period pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136 (a) requesting an extension of time of the number of months necessary to make this response timely filed and the petition fee due in connection therewith may be charged to deposit account no. 12-0415.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Post Office with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on

December 11, 2006
(Date of Deposit)

Susan Papp
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Susan Papp
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December 11, 2006
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